Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SAIGON 10953 190359 Z

14
ACTION EA-13

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ADP-00 NSCE-00 NSC-10 INR-09 CIAE-00

NSAE-00 PM-03 DODE-00 PRS-01 IO-03 EUR-10 RSR-01

RSC-01 /066 W
---------- 123201
R 190305 Z JUN 73
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3388
INFO USDEL JEC PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 10953

LIMDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MOPS, MARR, CA, HU, ID, PL, VS
SUBJECT: SITREP FOR JUNE 18, 1973

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SAIGON FORM CAN THO JUNE 18
REPEATED TO YOU

QUOTE CAN THO 0468

SUMMARY: ALLEGED VC/ NVA VIOLATIONS DECLINED FOR THE SECOND CONSECUTIVE DAY. HARD FIGHTING CONTINUED IN CHUONG THIEN. THE VC BLOODIED AN ARVN BATTALION NEAR CA MAU. VINH BINH " VICTORY WEEK" CONTEST OFFERS CASH FOR DEAD VC. THE ENTIRE INDONESIAN ICCS DELEGATION WILL BE REPLACED IN JULY. END SUMMARY.
1. SECURITY SITUATION: (A) DELTA MILITARY ACTIVITY CONTINUED TO DECLINE JUNE 17. COMPARED TO THE PREVIOUS DAY' S 66, MR IV REPORTED 45 VC/ NVA VIOLATIONS: SIX GROUND ASSAULTS, 24 ABF' S, 12 HARASSMENTS, AND THREE ACTS OF INFILTRATION AND SABOTAGE. CHUONG THIEN AS USUAL SAW THE MOST ACTION. RVNAF ADMITTED TO THE LOSS OF 21 KILLED AND 118 WOUNDED, WHILE CLAIMING 97 VC/ NVA KILLED. DURING THE WEEK OF JUNE 10-16 MR IV CLAIMED 405 VC/ NVA
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SAIGON 10953 190359 Z

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

INITIATED INCIDENTS. RVNAF LOST 138 KILLED, 763 WOUNDED, AND 43 MISSING. VC/ NVA LOSSES WERE PLACED AT 569 KILLED AND SIX CAPTURED. THE NUMBER OF INCIDENTS WAS ABOUT THE SAME AS THE PREVIOUS WEEK, BUT BOTH GOVERNMENT AND OPPOSITION CASUALTIES DECLINED. DURING THE WEEK OF JUNE 3-9, GVN SPOKESMEN HAD CLAIMED 938 VC/ NVA KILLED.
(B) THE VICE CONSUL IN CHUONG THIEN REPORTED 15-20 INCIDENTS JUNE 17. MOST OCCURRED IN DUC LONG AND LONG MY DISTRICTS, WHERE THERE WERE SEVERAL VC/ NVA ASSAULTS AGAINST POSITIONS HELD BY THE 9 TH ARVN DIVISION' S 16 TH REGIMENT. THE MOST SERIOUS WAS THE LOSS OF VI LOI- C OUTPOST IN VI THUY VILLAGE JUST EIGHT KILOMETERS NORTHEAST OF VI THANH. THE VC MORTARED THE POST FRIDAY, SATURDAY, AND SUNDAY, BEFORE ALL CONTACT WAS LOST SUNDAY NIGHT JUNE 17. THE VC HAVE OVERRUN THE SAME POST FOUR TIMES IN TWO MONTHS. THE VICE CONSUL SAID ACCURATE REPORTS OF INCIDENTS AND CASUALTIES ARE DIFFICULT TO OBTAIN IN CHUONG THIEN, WHERE SECTOR AND THE 21 ST DIVISION RARELY SPEAK TO EACH OTHER. HE ADDED THAT CEASEFIRE II SEEMS TO HAVE HAD LITTLE EFFECT UPON THE POPULACE, THE VI THANH SUNDAY MARKET WAS FULL OF PEOPLE, AND PRICES, ESPECIALLY FOR RICE, WERE REASONABLY STABLE.
(C) IN AN XUYEN, THE VC AMBUSHED THE FIRST BATTALION OF THE 21 ST ARVN DIVISION' S 32 ND REGIMENT AT 1300 HOURS JUNE 16 ABOUT SEVEN KILOMETERS SOUTH OF CA MAU CITY. THE BATTALION COMMANDER AND 23 OTHERS WERE KILLED AND 80 WOUNDED. TROOPS REMAINED IN CONTACT WITH THE VC UNTIL ABOUT 0300 HOURS JUNE 18.
(D) DINH TUONG, KIEN HOA, AND CHAU DOC CONTINUE TO SHOW LITTLE MILITARY ACTIVITY. CASUALTIES ARE FEW. WHAT FEW INCIDENTS AND CONTACTS ARE REPORTED APPEAR TO BE INITIATED BY THE GVN. " VC- INITIATED INCIDENTS " MAY BE IN RESPONSE TO AGGRESSIVE GVN BEHAVIOR.
(E) VINH BINH PROVINCE CHIEF COL NGUYEN HUU KIEM IS CONDUCTING A " VICTORY WEEK" CONTEST IN CONJUNCTION WITH ARMED FORCES DAY JUNE 19. HE IS AWARDING A PRICE OF $ NV50,000 TO THE UNIT WHICH REPORTS THE MOST VC KILLED. THE RESULT HAS BEEN AN UPSURGE OF GVN- INITIATED ACTIVITY IN VINH BINH AND PERHAPS SOME QUESTIONABLE CASUALTY FIGURES. ON JUNE 17, FOR EXAMPLE, THE GVN CLAIMED 34 VC KILLED AT A COST OF ONLY ONE RVNAF KILLED AND TEN WOUNDED.
CONFIDENTIAL

THE TEN WOUNDED RVNAFWERE ATTRIBUTED TO AN INCIDENT IN HIEP MY VILLAGE, CAU NGANG DISTRICT, WHERE A TROOP CARRIER ROLLED OVER A MINE. THE 404 TH RF BATTALION CLAIMED 17 VC DEAD AND SEVERAL WEAPONS CAPTURED IN A CLASH THE SAME DAY WITH THE VC D-3 REGIMENT' S 306 BATTALION IN TANG LONG DISTRICT ON THE VINH BINH/ VINH LONG BORDER. THE RF UNIT REPORTEDLY LOST ONLY ONE KILLED IN THE FIGHT.

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

(F) PHONG DINH PROVINCE REPORTED EIGHT ABF' S ON JUNE 16 AND FOUR THE FOLLOWING DAY. THE VC LAUNCHED TWO GROUND ATTACKS AGAINST GOVERNMENT POSITIONS JUNE 16 AND ONE JUNE 17. THE MOST SERIOUS ATTACK CAME AT 0700 HOURS JUNE 16 WHEN AIC UNIT OVERRAN AN BINH HAMLET, AN BAC THON VILLAGE IN PHONG THUAN DISTRICT. THE HAMLET WAS PROTECTED ONLY BY PSDF, OF WHOM TWO WERE KILLED, FIVE WOUNDED AND FOUR MISSING. THE DEPUTY HAMLET CHIEF AND TWO OTHER CIVILIANS WERE ALSO KILLED. THE VC CARRIED OFF SEVERAL WEAPONS AND A RADIO. UNKNOWN ASSASSINS DECIMATED THE FAMILY OF A PHONG DINH DEPUTY HAMLET CHIEF AT 0115 HOURS JUNE 18 IN TAN HIEP HAMLET, THANH HOA VILLAGE, THUAN NHON DISTRICT. THE DEPUTY CHIEF, HIS WIFE, CHILD, MOTHER, BROTHER, SISTER- IN- LAW, AND TWO NIECES WERE KILLED, AND TWO OTHER CIVILIANS WERE WOUNDED.

2. ICCS: AN INDONESIAN REGION VII ICCS SOURCE SAID JUNE 16 THE THE ENTIRE INDONESIAN DELEGATION WILL BE REPLACED SOMETIME IN JULY. GENERAL SUMITRO WHO VISITED CAN THO JUNE 14 TOLD REGION VII INDONESIANS THAT THEIR REPLACEMENTS ARE A " SELECT GROUP" PRESENTLY UNDERGOING TRAINING IN INDONESIA. THERE WILL BE A TWO WEEK OVERLAP OF COMMANDERS SO THAT THE OUT- GOING TEAM MAY IMPART THE BENEFIT OF ITS EXPERIENCE TO THE NEW COMERS.

COMMENT: DESPITE THE OVERLAP WE FIND THIS A DISHEARTENING DEVELOPMENT. WITH THE CANADIANS LEAVING AT THE END OF JULY AND THE POLES AND HUNGARIANS UNITED IN PERSISTENT OBSTRUCTIONISM, WE FEEL THE COMPLETE TURNOVER OF THE INDONESIAN DELEGATION WILL FURTHER DIMINISH ICCS CHANCES OF PLAYING A USEFUL PEACEKEEPING ROLE.

WISNER

UNQUOTE

WHITEHOUSE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNNNMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** LIMDIS

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 JUN 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: elyme
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973SAIGON10953
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SAIGON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730624/aaaajhmf.tel
Line Count: 151
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: elyme
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20-Aug-2001 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <17-Oct-2001 by elyme>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> jms 980217
Subject: SITREP FOR JUNE 18, 1973
TAGS: MARR, MOPS, CA, HU, ID, PL
To: EA
JEC PARIS
SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005